

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of

R. A.GIDDINGS et al.

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: new application (divisional of  
Application No. 09/636,286)

Examiner:

Filed: herewith

For: QUARTZ FUSION FURNACE AND METHOD FOR FORMING QUARTZ ARTICLES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of  
this paper.